

## PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Loney/Deer Meadow Restoration Program's Aspen Regeneration Phase 2
<b>Brief Description</b>	<p><b>Summary</b>  The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) is requesting funds to work with volunteers and the USFS to restore aspen stands within four acres of one of the largest wetland complexes in the Tahoe National Forest. SYRCL will leverage this opportunity to provide public education on ecology and the benefits of healthy mountain meadows through training and stewardship, interpretive signs and a Grand Opening event. This project is part of a larger restoration project to be funded by NFWF.</p> <p><b>Environmental Setting</b>  Loney Meadow is a 300 acre wet meadow complex at 6000 feet consisting entirely of USFS land surrounded by the Tahoe National Forest (TNF). Loney Meadow provides unique recreational and educational opportunities near Interstate 80. Current uses include grazing and an interpretive trail.</p> <p><b>Goals, Deliverables and Scope of Work</b>  Loney Meadow is a priority restoration site in the NFWF Business Plan, one of only three in the Yuba River Watershed, and one of the few meadows in the Sierra where complete restoration of hydrology and vegetation characteristics could be achieved at a reasonable cost. As a popular recreation destination, Loney Meadow is one of the most visited and visible wet meadows in the Sierra Nevada and presents a tremendous opportunity to educate the public about the values of healthy mountain meadows.</p> <p>SYRCL is requesting a grant to fund aspen regeneration in Loney Meadow and to provide outreach to the public about the benefits of meadow restoration. SYRCL has submitted a full proposal to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for treating erosion problems, monitoring groundwater and water quality in the meadow and planning for full-scale meadow restoration. Partners to the NFWF proposal include USFS and American Rivers.</p> <p><b>Outcomes of Loney Meadow Restoration Program: Aspen Regeneration Phase 2</b>, will be a healthy, native forest, reduction of fire risk, improved habitat for native plants and wildlife and increased understanding of ecosystem services provided by healthy meadows. This SNC project is worthy of funding as a stand-alone project, even if NFWF funding is not received.</p> <p>Conifer encroachment is a principal threat to remnant aspen stands in Loney meadow. There is an immediate need to remove conifers as they out-compete aspen for sunlight, water and nutrients, resulting in</p>

	<p>decreased vigor and an onslaught of pathogens which increase mortality. Conifer encroachment has been shown to alter soil properties, impacting water holding capacity and changing meadow vegetation. Removal of conifers will partially emulate natural disturbance regimes allowing regeneration by suckering, aspens' main reproductive strategy.</p> <p>Preservation of aspen habitat is critical, as it is the single most species-rich avian habitat in the Sierra Nevada, as well as providing habitat for rare species, and diverse wetland vegetation. Removal of conifers in Loney meadow will help preserve unique features of mountain meadows, including vegetation, soils, hydrology, biodiversity, and provide a supporting role in watershed health. Once treated, aspen stands can act as natural firebreaks.</p> <p>In collaboration with the USFS, SYRCL completed Phase 1 of the Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Program in 2011. Staff and volunteers used hand tools to remove small conifers and enhance two acres for aspen regeneration using USFS Best Management Practices, which have been successfully employed in other Sierra mountain meadows. Initial performance monitoring shows that using volunteers is a cost effective approach to aspen regeneration, while providing a valuable opportunity for service learning.</p> <p>Of the prioritized and mapped areas, four acres remain untreated. With funding from the SNC, SYRCL and the USFS will assess aspen stands using the USFS "Aspen Location and Condition" protocol, purchase all necessary tools and lead a trained team of volunteers to treat areas with methods similar to those used in 2011. Once removed, the conifers will be piled as grazing barriers or removed if deemed a fire hazard. Project implementation will occur on eight work days, four each in 2013 and 2014, with a final monitoring occurring in 2015.</p> <p>An existing interpretive trail provides information on the history of the meadow but lacks information on the ecological benefits of wet meadow systems to forest health and water supply. As part of the project, partners will design and install 15 interpretive signs with information including the importance of meadows for ecological biodiversity, increased late season water storage and improved downstream water quality, as well as other important meadow features. SYRCL will then promote public use and education about meadow restoration through social media and a Grand Opening event.</p>
<b>Total Requested Amount</b>	53,872.44
<b>Other Fund Proposed</b>	84,560.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	138,432.44
<b>Project Category</b>	Site Improvement/Restoration
<b>Project Area/Size</b>	4
<b>Project Area Type</b>	Acres

<b>Have you submitted to SNC this fiscal year?</b>	No
<b>Is this application related to other SNC funding?</b>	No

<b>Project Results</b>
Restoration

<b>Project Purpose</b>	<b>Project Purpose Percent</b>
Habitat	
Natural Resource	
Recreation Use/Impact/Access	

<b>County</b>
Nevada

<b>Sub Region</b>
Central

**PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Name</b>	Mr. Gary Reedy,
<b>Title</b>	Science Program Director
<b>Organization</b>	South Yuba River Citizen's League (SYRCL
<b>Primary Address</b>	216 Main Street, , , Nevada City, CA, 95959
<b>Primary Phone/Fax</b>	530-265-5961 <b>Ext.</b> 208
<b>Primary Email</b>	Gary@syrcl.org



## PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

### Project Location

Address:	Loney and Deer Meadows, , , Truckee, CA, 96161
Water Agency:	
Latitude:	39.4210
Longitude:	-120.6549
Congressional District:	
Senate:	
Assembly:	
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

**Grant Application Type:**  
**Category One Site Improvement**

**Grant Application Type:**  
**Category One Site Improvement**

<b>PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION</b>
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<b>Other Grant Project Contacts</b>
Name: Mr. Gary Reedy, Project Role: Day-to-Day Responsibility Phone: 5302655961 Phone Ext: 208 E-mail: gary@syrcl.org

## UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
Detailed Budget Form
Restrictions/Agreements
Regulatory Requirements or Permits
NEPA Documentation
Letters of Support
Long Term Management Plan
Project Location Map
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Topographic Map

Photos of the Project Site
Land Tenure- Only for Site Improvement Projects
Site Plan - Only Site Improv. or Restoration Proj.
Leases or Agreements

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

## **Appendix B1**

### **Full Application Checklist**

Project Name: Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project

Applicant: South Yuba River Citizens League

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. **X** Completed Application Checklist (EFN: *Checklist.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
2. **X** Table of Contents (EFN: *TOC.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
3. **X** Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: *SIform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
4. **X** Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: *authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
5. **X** Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: *Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf*)
  - a. **X** Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum)
    - X** Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
    - X** Project Summary
    - X** Environmental Setting
  - b. **X** Workplan and Schedule (1,000 character maximum)
  - c. **X** Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements(1,000 character maximum)
  - d. **X** Organizational Capacity(1,000 character maximum)
  - e. **X** Cooperation and Community Support (1,000 character maximum)
  - f. **X** Long Term Management and Sustainability (1,000 character maximum)
  - g. **X** Performance Measures (1,000 character maximum)
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
  - a. **X** Detailed Budget Form (EFN: *Budget.xls, .xlsx*)
  - b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable
    - X** Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: *RestAgree.pdf*)
    - X** Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: *RegPermit.pdf*)

## **Appendix B1**

### **Full Application Checklist**

Project Name: Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project

Applicant: South Yuba River Citizens League

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. **X** Completed Application Checklist (EFN: *Checklist.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
2. **X** Table of Contents (EFN: *TOC.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
3. **X** Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: *SIform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
4. **X** Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: *authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
5. **X** Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: *Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf*)
  - a. **X** Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum)
    - X** Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
    - X** Project Summary
    - X** Environmental Setting
  - b. **X** Workplan and Schedule (1,000 character maximum)
  - c. **X** Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements(1,000 character maximum)
  - d. **X** Organizational Capacity(1,000 character maximum)
  - e. **X** Cooperation and Community Support (1,000 character maximum)
  - f. **X** Long Term Management and Sustainability (1,000 character maximum)
  - g. **X** Performance Measures (1,000 character maximum)
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
  - a. **X** Detailed Budget Form (EFN: *Budget.xls, .xlsx*)
  - b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable
    - X** Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: *RestAgree.pdf*)
    - X** Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: *RegPermit.pdf*)

- N/A** California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: CEQA.pdf)
- X** National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: NEPA.pdf)
- c. Cooperation and Community Support
- X** Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.pdf)
- d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability
- X** Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf)
- e. Maps and Photos
- X** Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)
- X** Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)
- X** Topographic Map (EFN: Topo.pdf)
- X** Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)
- f. Additional submission requirements for Conservation Easement Acquisition applications only
- N/A** Acquisition Schedule (EFN: acqSched.doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf)
- N/A** Willing Seller Letter (EFN: WillSell.pdf)
- N/A** Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: Appraisal.pdf)
- N/A** Conservation Easement Language (EFN: CE.pdf)
- g. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project applications only
- X** Land Tenure Documents – attach only if documentation was not included with Pre-application (EFN: Tenure.pdf)
- X** Site Plan (EFN: SitePlan.pdf)
- X** Leases or Agreements (EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf)

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Representative)

1-19-12  
Date

Caleb Dardick, Executive Director  
Name and Title (print or type)



# **LONEY MEADOW ASPEN REGENERATION PROJECT: PHASE 2**

## ***Using Volunteers to Restore and Monitor Sierra Meadows***

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COMPLETED APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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## Appendix B2

### SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Rev. August 2011

#### PROJECT NAME

Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project: Phase 2

#### APPLICANT NAME *(Legal name, address, and zip code)*

South Yuba Citizens River League

#### PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

*Name and title – type or print*

*Phone*

*Email Address*

☒ Mr. Caleb Dardick, Executive Director

(530) 265-5961 Ext. 207 caleb@syrcl.org

☐ Ms.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry is required)*

*Name:* Richard A. Haffey, CEO

*Phone Number:* (530)265-7040

*Email address:*

ceo@co.nevada.ca.us

*Name:*

*Phone Number:*

*Email address:*

#### NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry is required)*

*Name:* Ron Nelson, General Manager, Nevada Irrigation District

*Phone Number:* (530)273-6185

*Email address:*

rnelson@nid.dst.ca.us

*Name:*

*Phone Number:*

*Email address:*

#### Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details *(Choose One)*

☒ Category One Site Improvement

☐ Category Two Pre-Project Activities

☐ Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition

#### X Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition

Project area: Tahoe National Forest

Total Acres: 4 Acres

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): \_\_\_\_\_

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable

☒ Restoration

☐ Enhancement

☐ Resource Protection

☐ Infrastructure Development / Improvement

☐ Conservation Easement

<b>For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal Included <input type="checkbox"/> Will submit appraisal by _____									
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pre-Project Activities</b>	<b>Select <u>one</u> primary Pre-Project deliverable</b> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Permit</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Plan</td><td></td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Plan									



SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZENS LEAGUE

## BOARD RESOLUTION

### In the Matter of: A Resolution Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Proposition 84 Healthy Forests Grant Program:

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the South Yuba River Citizens League on January 13, 2012:

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution certifying the approval of application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application(s) to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

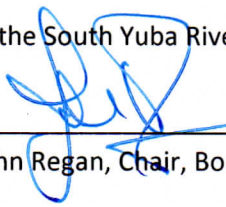
WHEREAS, the South Yuba River Citizens League has identified the **Loney Meadow Restoration Program: Aspen Regeneration Phase 2** project as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the South Yuba River Citizens League, that this Board:

- Approves the submittal of an application for the **Loney Meadow Restoration Program: Aspen Regeneration Phase 2** project; and
- Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
- Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resource(s) consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application; or will secure the resources to do so; and
- Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
- Appoints Caleb Dardick, Executive Director, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to: applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the South Yuba River Citizens League on the 13 day of January, 2012.

Signed and Approved by

  
John Regan, Chair, Board of Directors

1/13/2012

# **LONEY MEADOW RESTORATION PROGRAM: ASPEN REGENERATION: Phase 2**

## ***Using Volunteers to Restore and Monitor Sierra Meadows***

### **A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

#### **Summary**

The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) is requesting funds to work with volunteers and the USFS to restore aspen stands within four acres of one of the largest wetland complexes in the Tahoe National Forest. SYRCL will leverage this opportunity to provide public education on ecology and the benefits of healthy mountain meadows through training and stewardship, interpretive signs and a Grand Opening event. This project is part of a larger restoration project to be funded by NFWF.

#### **Environmental Setting**

Loney Meadow is a 300 acre wet meadow complex at 6000 feet consisting entirely of USFS land surrounded by the Tahoe National Forest (TNF). Loney Meadow provides unique recreational and educational opportunities near Interstate 80. Current uses include grazing and an interpretive trail.

#### **Goals, Deliverables and Scope of Work**

Loney Meadow is a priority restoration site in the NFWF Business Plan, one of only three in the Yuba River Watershed, and one of the few meadows in the Sierra where complete restoration of hydrology and vegetation characteristics could be achieved at a reasonable cost. As a popular recreation destination, Loney Meadow is one of the most visited and visible wet meadows in the Sierra Nevada and presents a tremendous opportunity to educate the public about the values of healthy mountain meadows.

SYRCL is requesting a grant to fund aspen regeneration in Loney Meadow and to provide outreach to the public about the benefits of meadow restoration. SYRCL has submitted a full proposal to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for treating erosion problems, monitoring groundwater and water quality in the meadow and planning for full-scale meadow restoration. Partners to the NFWF proposal include USFS and American Rivers.

Outcomes of *Loney Meadow Restoration Program: Aspen Regeneration Phase 2*, will be a healthy, native forest, reduction of fire risk, improved habitat for native plants and wildlife and increased understanding of ecosystem services provided by healthy meadows. This SNC project is worthy of funding as a stand-alone project, even if NFWF funding is not received.

Conifer encroachment is a principal threat to remnant aspen stands in Loney meadow. There is an immediate need to remove conifers as they out-compete aspen for sunlight, water and nutrients, resulting in decreased vigor and an onslaught of pathogens which increase mortality. Conifer encroachment has been shown to alter soil properties, impacting water holding capacity and changing meadow vegetation. Removal of conifers will partially emulate natural disturbance regimes allowing regeneration by suckering, aspens' main reproductive strategy.

Preservation of aspen habitat is critical, as it is the single most species-rich avian habitat in the Sierra Nevada, as well as providing habitat for rare species, and diverse wetland vegetation. Removal of

conifers in Loney meadow will help preserve unique features of mountain meadows, including vegetation, soils, hydrology, biodiversity, and provide a supporting role in watershed health. Once treated, aspen stands can act as natural firebreaks.

In collaboration with the USFS, SYRCL completed Phase 1 of the Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Program in 2011. Staff and volunteers used hand tools to remove small conifers and enhance two acres for aspen regeneration using USFS Best Management Practices, which have been successfully employed in other Sierra mountain meadows. Initial performance monitoring shows that using volunteers is a cost effective approach to aspen regeneration, while providing a valuable opportunity for service learning.

Of the prioritized and mapped areas, four acres remain untreated. With funding from the SNC, SYRCL and the USFS will assess aspen stands using the USFS “Aspen Location and Condition” protocol, purchase all necessary tools and lead a trained team of volunteers to treat areas with methods similar to those used in 2011. Once removed, the conifers will be piled as grazing barriers or removed if deemed a fire hazard. Project implementation will occur on eight work days, four each in 2013 and 2014, with a final monitoring occurring in 2015.

An existing interpretive trail provides information on the history of the meadow but lacks information on the ecological benefits of wet meadow systems to forest health and water supply. As part of the project, partners will design and install 15 interpretive signs with information including the importance of meadows for ecological biodiversity, increased late season water storage and improved downstream water quality, as well as other important meadow features. SYRCL will then promote public use and education about meadow restoration through social media and a Grand Opening event.

#### **Proposition 84 and SNC Mission and Program Goals**

This project is consistent with Proposition 84 Land and Water Benefits by protecting the Yuba River watershed through improvements in meadow and forest health, water storage and water quality. The project is also consistent with, and furthers, SNC Program Goals, particularly the Healthy Forests and Watershed Protection and Restoration Areas of Focus laid out in the SNC’s 2011 Strategic Plan.

## **B. WORKPLAN AND SCHEDULE**

### **1: Administration (SYRCL)**

- 1.1 Team coordination
- 1.2 Track project progress and budget
- 1.3 SNC reports
- 1.4 Final report

### **2: Site preparation: (SYRCL, USFS)**

- 2.1 Complete protocol form.
- 2.2 Map and prioritize work day activities
- 2.3 Plan and prepare work days
- 2.4 Purchase all necessary equipment

### **3: Recruitment and Training: (SYRCL)**

- 3.1 Develop recruitment and training materials.
- 3.2 Recruit volunteers.
- 3.3 On-site trainings and evening educational presentations.

### **4: Restoration Days: (SYRCL, USFS)**

- 4.1 Hold 4 workdays per year (July to Sept)

### **5: Monitoring: (SYRCL, USFS)**

- 5.1 Years 1 and 2: Monitor volunteer work to ensure task completion.
- 5.2 Effectiveness monitoring following Years 1 and 2, and adaptive management for Year 2 as necessary.
- 5.3 SNC Performance Measure Monitoring

### **6: Signage and Education: (SYRCL, USFS)**

- 6.1 Draft and final sign design
- 6.2 Build and install signs.
- 6.3 Produce and distribute outreach material for websites, newsletters and social media.
- 6.4 Plan and produce Grand Opening event.

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Final Contract with SNC	August 2012
Project Start Date (due to snow conditions)	April 2013
SNC 6 monthly reports	Throughout
Year 1: Volunteer Recruitment and Training Materials	April – July 2013
Year 2: Volunteer Recruitment and Training Materials	April – July 2014
Year 1: Site surveying and mapping	June – July 2013
Year 2: Site surveying and mapping	June – July 2014
Year 1: Final Site Workplan	July 2013
Year 2: Final Site Workplan	July 2014
List of tools purchased	July 2013 and July 2014
Year 1: Completed Baseline Aspen Location and Condition form	July 2013
Year 1: 2 acres of enhanced aspen habitat	July – September 2013
Year 1: Trained Volunteer List and Hours Completed	September 2013
Year 2: Completed Baseline Aspen Location and Condition form	July 2014
Year 2: 2 acres of enhanced aspen habitat	July – September 2014
Year 2: Trained Volunteer List and Hours Completed	September 2014
Volunteer Project Evaluations	September 2013 and 2014
Year 1: Monitoring Results	July 2014
Year 2: Monitoring Results	July 2015
15 Interpretive Signs Installed	August - September 2014
Outreach Materials	August – September 2014
Grand Opening Event	September 2014
SNC Performance Monitoring Results	August 2015
Final Report	August 2015



## **C. RESTRICTIONS, TECHNICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS**

### **Restrictions/Agreements**

There are no known restrictions or agreements that would adversely affect this project.

### **Regulatory Requirements/Permits**

This project is under the authority of the US Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest and that agency has completed NEPA documentation. The Tahoe NF completed the environmental analysis (NEPA) prior to final project submission. The project was found to fall within a Category of Exclusion according to the Forest Service Handbook. In discussions with SNC staff we understand that based on this negative NEPA analysis the project is CEQA compliant and that the SNC would be the lead applicant for CEQA if necessary.

SYRCL and the USFS have an MOU to work together on this project. (See attached)

## **D. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY**

SYRCL will be the lead organization on this project and provide all project management and coordination of partners and resources. The principal project partner and landowner is the Tahoe National Forest which clearly has expert staff to carry out the technical supervision of this project. The Aspen Regeneration Project will build on SYRCL's 28 year history of successful volunteer-based watershed activities. SYRCL has more than 600 active volunteers and is widely known for its expertise in recruiting and training volunteers. SYRCL's volunteer restoration activities include regular invasive species removal days along the South Yuba River, conducting assessment and monitoring throughout the Yuba River watershed, riparian restoration in the Lower Yuba and the successful completion of Phase 1 of this project with the USFS in 2011. In 2011, SYRCL prepared a handbook for volunteer involvement in Meadows projects - *Sharing Stewardship: A guide to involving volunteers in assessment, monitoring and restoration of meadows in the Sierra Nevada*. Our partners, USFS has a long history of successfully carrying out this type of project.

## **E. COOPERATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

The specific strategies represented by this project have been developed in close partnership with USFS staff over more than two years through meetings of the Yuba Watershed Council and the Yuba Meadows Technical Forum. This project is part of a larger conservation effort and has been built with other organizations including American Rivers to explore the possibility of meadow restoration being a viable "green infrastructure" approach to storing more water from the earlier melt of the Sierra snowpack as a result of climate change, while at the same time providing water quality and critical habitat benefits.

Letters of Support are included from Genice Froehlich, USFS District Ranger and Elizabeth Soderstrom, PhD, Senior Director of Conservation at American Rivers.

## **F. LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT**

Long-term management will be provided by the USFS. Over the long-term, USFS will continue to manage Loney Meadow according to the riparian conservation objectives listed in the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision, Section 14 Riparian Conservation Area. These include Riparian Objective #5 "Preserve, restore, or enhance special aquatic features, such as meadows....to provide the

ecological conditions and processes needed to recover or enhance the viability of species that rely on these areas.” Standards and guidelines include regular mapping and assessment and assessing grazing issues. SYRCL anticipates contributing regular volunteer workdays to the park after this project is completed.

## **G. PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

The following SNC mandated performance measures will be used:

1. Number of People Reached including volunteers, attendees at Grand Opening event.
2. Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada including, donated work by volunteer crew.
3. Number and Type of Jobs Created.
4. Number of New, Improved or Preserved Economic Activities including preserving forest land and water quality for future uses.
5. Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior including volunteers and attendees at the Grand Opening event.
6. Acres of Land Improved or Restored including acres of aspens restored.

# Appendix B3

## SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

### PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

**Project Name:** Loney Meadow Restoration Program: Aspen Regeneration Phase 2

**Applicant:** South Yuba River Citizens League

<b>SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>	<b>Year Four</b>	<b>Year Five</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>ProjectWork/team Coordination</i>	\$2,913.68	\$3,178.56				\$6,092.24
<i>Restoration Days Planning and Prep</i>	\$1,950.52	\$2,127.84				\$4,078.36
<i>Mapping and Surveying</i>	\$1,161.60	\$1,267.20				\$2,428.80
<i>Restoration Days</i>	\$1,452.00	\$1,584.00				\$3,036.00
<i>Volunteer Recruitment and Training</i>	\$1,931.16	\$2,106.72				\$4,037.88
<i>Travel to Loney Meadows</i>	\$250.00	\$600.00				\$850.00
<i>Sign Design and installation</i>		\$2,750.88				\$2,750.88
<i>15 interpretive Signs Materials</i>		\$4,520.00				\$4,520.00
<i>Interpretive Sign Graphics Designer</i>		\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00
<i>Grand Opening Education Event</i>		\$4,606.80				\$4,606.80
<i>USFS Planning, Oversight and Fieldwork</i>	\$2,724.00	\$3,993.00				\$6,717.00
<b>DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	\$12,382.96	\$28,235.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,617.96

<b>SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>	<b>Year Four</b>	<b>Year Five</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Equipment purchase, and maintenance</i>	\$500.00					\$500.00
<i>Printing color drafts of signs</i>		\$50.00				\$50.00
<i>Regular outreach and education about pr</i>	\$290.40	\$316.80				\$607.20
<i>Grand Opening invitations and pr</i>		\$450.00				\$450.00
<i>Performance Measure Monitoring</i>	\$924.44	\$1,240.80				\$2,165.24
<i>Evaluation and Regular Reporting</i>	\$580.80	\$633.60				\$1,214.40
<i>Final report</i>		\$1,240.80				\$1,240.80
<b>INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	\$2,295.64	\$3,932.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,227.64
<b>PROJECT TOTAL:</b>	\$14,678.60	\$32,167.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46,845.60

<b>SECTION THREE</b>						
<b>Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :</b>						<b>Total</b>
<i>Organization operating/overhead costs</i>	\$2,201.79	\$4,825.05				\$7,026.84
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:</b>	\$2,201.79	\$4,825.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,026.84
<b>SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:</b>	\$16,880.39	\$36,992.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53,872.44

<b>SECTION FOUR</b>						
<b>OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>	<b>Year Four</b>	<b>Year Five</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Volunteer Crew - SYRCL match</i>	\$5,280.00	\$5,280.00				\$10,560.00
<i>SYRCL Americorps Member - SYRCL ma</i>	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00				\$4,000.00
<i>NFWF Proposal-applied for</i>	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00				\$70,000.00
<b>Total Other Contributions:</b>	\$42,280.00	\$42,280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84,560.00

**NOTE:** The categories noted on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Items may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.  
Operating costs should be allocated to the percentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology, and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.

## **Appendix B1**

### **Checklist Number 6 b**

#### **Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements**

No Restrictions or Encumbrances exist that could adversely affect Project completion.

## **Supplemental and Supporting Documents**

### **Checklist Number 6 b**

#### **Regulatory Requirement/Permits**

Attached is a current agreement between the USFS and SYRCL to improve aspen stands.

FS Agreement No. 11-CS-11051700-019  
Cooperator Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CHALLENGE COST SHARE AGREEMENT**  
**Between The**  
**SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZENS LEAGUE**  
**And The**  
**USDA, FOREST SERVICE**  
**TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST**

This CHALLENGE COST SHARE AGREEMENT is hereby made and entered into by and between the South Yuba River Citizens League, hereinafter referred to as "SYRCL," and the USDA, Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest hereinafter referred to as the "U.S. Forest Service," under the authority: of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 1992, Public Law 102-154, and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, Public Law 106-393, 16 U.S.C. 500, as reauthorized and amended by Section 601(a) in division C of Pub. L. 110-343.

Title: RAC Aspen Regeneration Project

**I. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this agreement is to document the cooperation between the parties to restore declining stands of aspen in the Yuba River Basin by using professional staff and trained volunteers as described in the approved RAC proposal, in accordance with the following provisions and the hereby incorporated Operating and Financial Plan, attached as Exhibit A.

**II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:**

SYRCL is a regional advocate for creating resilient human and natural communities throughout the greater Yuba River basin by restoring creeks & rivers, regenerating wild salmon populations, and inspiring & organizing people. They have an interest in restoring aspen in the Yuba basin. The Forest Service is a land management agency responsible for management and restoration of National Forest System lands. Both parties have a mutual interest in the restoration of aspen plant communities in the Sierra Nevada Region.

The goals of this project are to: improve the health of aspen plant communities by removing small conifers and promoting regeneration; and to establish and train volunteers to support the long-term stewardship and management of aspen stands. Both of these actions benefit the Forest Service and SYRCL through restoration of aspen plant communities which have declining trends in the Sierra Nevada.

In Consideration of the above premises, the parties agree as follows:



### III. SYRCL SHALL:

- A. LEGAL AUTHORITY. SYRCL shall have the legal authority to enter into this agreement, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project, which includes funds sufficient to pay the nonfederal share of project costs, when applicable.
- B. USE OF GOVERNMENT OWNED VEHICLES. U.S. Forest Service vehicles may be used for official U.S. Forest Service business only in accordance with FSH 7109.19, ch. 60, the requirements established by the region in which performance of this agreement takes place, and the terms of this agreement.
- C. SYRCL will perform in accordance with the Financial Plan, Exhibit A, and the attached and hereby incorporated Scope of Work, Exhibit B.

### IV. THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE SHALL:

- A. PAYMENT/REIMBURSEMENT. The U.S. Forest Service shall reimburse SYRCL for the U.S. Forest Service's share of actual expenses incurred, not to exceed **\$4,075.00** as shown in the Financial Plan. The U.S. Forest Service shall make payment upon receipt of SYRCL's quarterly invoice. Each invoice from SYRCL must display the total project costs for the billing period, separated by U.S. Forest Service and SYRCL share. In-kind contributions must be displayed as a separate line item and must not be included in the total project costs available for reimbursement. The final invoice must display SYRCL's full match towards the project, as shown in the financial plan, and be submitted no later than 90 days from the expiration date.

\* Each invoice must include, at a minimum:

1. SYRCL's name, address, and telephone number
2. U.S. Forest Service agreement number
3. Invoice date
4. Performance dates of the work completed (start & end)
5. Total invoice amount for the billing period
6. Statement that the invoice is a request for payment by 'reimbursement'
7. If using SF-270, a signature is required.
8. Invoice Number, if applicable

INVOICING  
REQUIREMENTS

The invoice must be sent by one of three methods (email is preferred):

**EMAIL:** asc\_ga@fs.fed.us

**FAX:** 877-687-4894

**POSTAL:** USDA Forest Service  
Albuquerque Service Center  
Payments – Grants & Agreements  
101B Sun Ave NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109



Send a copy to: Kathy Van Zuuk, Tahoe National Forest, 631 Coyote Street, Nevada City, California 95959

- B. The Forest Service will perform in accordance with the Scope of Work, Exhibit B.

**V. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:**

- A. Individuals listed below are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement.

<b>Cooperator Program Contact</b>	<b>Cooperator Administrative Contact</b>
Cecily Mui 216 Main Street Nevada City, CA 95959 Telephone: (530) 265-5961 x213 FAX: (530) 265-6232 Email: <a href="mailto:Cecily@syrccl.org">Cecily@syrccl.org</a>	Jason Rainey 216 Main Street Nevada City, CA 95959 Telephone: (530) 265-5961 x207 FAX: (530) 265-6232 Email: <a href="mailto:Jason@syrccl.org">Jason@syrccl.org</a>

**Principal U.S. Forest Service Contacts:**

<b>U.S. Forest Service Program Manager Contact</b>	<b>U.S. Forest Service Administrative Contact</b>
Kathy Van Zuuk 631 Coyote Street Nevada City, California 95959 Telephone: (530) 478-6243 FAX: (530) 478-6109 Email: <a href="mailto:kvanzuuk@fs.fed.us">kvanzuuk@fs.fed.us</a>	Karine Wagner 10811 Stockrest Springs Road Truckee, CA 96161 Telephone: 530-587-3558 x262 FAX: 530-587-6914 Email: <a href="mailto:karinewagner@fs.fed.us">karinewagner@fs.fed.us</a>

- B. **NON-LIABILITY.** The U.S. Forest Service does not assume liability for any third party claims for damages arising out of this agreement.
- C. **NOTICES.** Any communications affecting the operations covered by this agreement given by the U.S. Forest Service or SYRCL are sufficient only if in writing and delivered in person, mailed, or transmitted electronically by e-mail or fax, as follows:

To the U.S. Forest Service Program Manager, at the address specified in the agreement.

To SYRCL, at SYRCL's address shown in the agreement or such other address designated within the agreement.





Notices are effective when delivered in accordance with this provision, or on the effective date of the notice, whichever is later.

- D. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES. This agreement in no way restricts the U.S. Forest Service or SYRCL from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
- E. ENDORSEMENT. Any of SYRCL's contributions made under this agreement do not by direct reference or implication convey U.S. Forest Service endorsement of SYRCL's products or activities.
- F. NON-FEDERAL STATUS FOR COOPERATOR PARTICIPANT LIABILITY. SYRCL agree(s) that any of their employees, volunteers, and program participants shall not be deemed to be Federal employees for any purposes including Chapter 171 of Title 28, United States Code (Federal Tort Claims Act) and Chapter 81 of Title 5, United States Code (OWCP), as SYRCL hereby willingly agree(s) to assume these responsibilities.
- Further, SYRCL shall provide any necessary training to SYRCL's employees, volunteers, and program participants to ensure that such personnel are capable of performing tasks to be completed. SYRCL shall also supervise and direct the work of its employees, volunteers, and participants performing under this agreement.
- G. MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS. Pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 22, no United States member of, or United States delegate to, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement, or benefits that may arise therefrom, either directly or indirectly.
- H. NONDISCRIMINATION. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
- I. ELIGIBLE WORKERS. SYRCL shall ensure that all employees complete the I-9 form to certify that they are eligible for lawful employment under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 USC 1324a). SYRCL shall comply with regulations regarding certification and retention of the completed forms. These requirements also apply to any contract awarded under this agreement.



J. STANDARDS FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

**1. Financial Reporting**

SYRCL shall provide complete, accurate, and current financial disclosures of the project or program in accordance with any financial reporting requirements, as set forth in the financial provisions.

**2. Accounting Records**

SYRCL shall continuously maintain and update records identifying the source and use of funds. The records shall contain information pertaining to the agreement, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, outlays, and income.

**3. Internal Control**

SYRCL shall maintain effective control over and accountability for all U.S. Forest Service funds, real property, and personal property assets. SYRCL shall keep effective internal controls to ensure that all United States Federal funds received are separately and properly allocated to the activities described in the agreement. SYRCL shall adequately safeguard all such property and shall ensure that it is used solely for authorized purposes.

**4. Source Documentation**

SYRCL shall support all accounting records with source documentation. These documentations include, but are not limited to, cancelled checks, paid bills, payrolls, contract and subgrant/contract documents, and so forth.

- K. Any funds paid to SYRCL in excess of the amount entitled under the terms and conditions of this agreement constitute a debt to the Federal Government. The following must also be considered as a debt or debts owed by SYRCL to the U.S. Forest Service:

- Any interest or other investment income earned on advances of agreement funds; or
- Any royalties or other special classes of program income which, under the provisions of the agreement, are required to be returned;

If this debt is not paid according to the terms of the bill for collection issued for the overpayment, the U.S. Forest Service may reduce the debt by:

1. Making an administrative offset against other requests for reimbursement.
2. Withholding advance payments otherwise due to SYRCL.



3. Taking other action permitted by statute (31 U.S.C. 3716 and 7 CFR, Part 3, Subpart B).

Except as otherwise provided by law, the U.S. Forest Service may charge interest on an overdue debt.

L. AGREEMENT CLOSEOUT. SYRCL shall close out the agreement within 90 days after expiration or notice of termination.

Any unobligated balance of cash advanced to SYRCL must be immediately refunded to the U.S. Forest Service, including any interest earned in accordance with 7 CFR 3016.21, 7 CFR 3019.22, or other relevant law or regulation.

Within a maximum of 90 days following the date of expiration or termination of this agreement, all financial performance and related reports required by the terms of the agreement must be submitted to the U.S. Forest Service by SYRCL.

If this agreement is closed out without audit, the U.S. Forest Service reserves the right to disallow and recover an appropriate amount after fully considering any recommended disallowances resulting from an audit which may be conducted later.

M. PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORTS SYRCL shall monitor the performance of the agreement activities to ensure that performance goals are being achieved.

Performance reports must contain information on the following:

- A comparison of actual accomplishments to the goals established for the period. Where the output of the project can be readily expressed in numbers, a computation of the cost per unit of output may be required if that information is useful.
- Reason(s) for delay if established goals were not met.
- Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

SYRCL shall submit quarterly performance reports to the U.S. Forest Service Program Manager. These reports are due 30 days after the reporting period. The final performance report shall be submitted either with SYRCL's final payment request, or separately, but not later than 90 days from the expiration date of the agreement.

N. RETENTION AND ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR RECORDS. SYRCL shall retain all records pertinent to this agreement for a period of no less than 3 years from the expiration or termination date. As used in this provision, "records" includes books, documents, accounting procedures and practice, and other data, regardless of the type or format. SYRCL shall provide access and the right to examine all records



related to this agreement to the U.S. Forest Service Inspector General, or Comptroller General or their authorized representative.

If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or other action involving the records has been started before the end of the 3-year period, the records must be kept until all issues are resolved, or until the end of the regular 3-year period, whichever is later.

Records for nonexpendable property acquired in whole or in part, with Federal funds must be retained for 3 years after its final disposition.

SYRCL shall provide access to any project site(s) to the U.S. Forest Service or any of their authorized representatives. The rights of access in this section shall not be limited to the required retention period but shall last as long as the records are kept.

- O. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA). Public access to agreement records must not be limited, except when such records must be kept confidential and would have been exempted from disclosure pursuant to Freedom of Information regulations (5 U.S.C. 552).
- P. TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING. In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," any and all text messaging by Federal employees is banned: a) while driving a Government owned vehicle (GOV) or driving a privately owned vehicle (POV) while on official Government business; or b) using any electronic equipment supplied by the Government when driving any vehicle at any time. All cooperators, their employees, volunteers, and contractors are encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging when driving company owned, leased or rented vehicles, POVs or GOVs when driving while on official Government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government.
- Q. FUNDING EQUIPMENT. Federal funding under this agreement is not available for reimbursement of SYRCL's purchase of equipment. Equipment is defined as having a fair market value of \$5,000 or more per unit and a useful life of over one year. Supplies are those items that are not equipment.
- R. U.S. FOREST SERVICE ACKNOWLEDGED IN PUBLICATIONS, AUDIOVISUALS AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA. SYRCL shall acknowledge U.S. Forest Service support in any publications, audiovisuals, and electronic media developed as a result of this agreement.
- S. OFFSETS, CLAIMS AND RIGHTS. Any and all activities entered into or approved by this agreement will create and support afforestation/ reforestation efforts within the National Forest System without generating carbon credits. The U.S. Forest Service does not make claims of permanence or any guarantees of carbon sequestration on lands reforested or afforested through partner assistance. The U.S.



Forest Service will provide for long-term management of reforested and afforested lands, according to applicable Federal statute regulations and forest plans.

T. REMEDIES FOR COMPLIANCE RELATED ISSUES. If SYRCL materially fail(s) to comply with any term of the agreement, whether stated in a Federal statute or regulation, an assurance, or the agreement, the U.S. Forest Service may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by SYRCL or more severe enforcement action by the U.S. Forest Service;
2. Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance;
3. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the current agreement for SYRCL's program;
4. Withhold further awards for the program, or
5. Take other remedies that may be legally available, including debarment procedures under 7 CFR part 3017.

U. TERMINATION BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT. This agreement may be terminated, in whole or part, as follows:

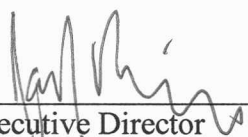
1. When the U.S. Forest Service and SYRCL agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated.
2. By 30 days written notification by SYRCL to the U.S. Forest Service setting forth the reasons for termination, effective date, and in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated.

If, in the case of a partial termination, the U.S. Forest Service determines that the remaining portion of the agreement will not accomplish the purposes for which the agreement was made, the U.S. Forest Service may terminate the agreement in its entirety.


Upon termination of an agreement, SYRCL shall not incur any new obligations for the terminated portion of the agreement after the effective date, and shall cancel as many outstanding obligations as possible. The U.S. Forest Service shall allow full credit to SYRCL for the United States Federal share of the non-cancelable obligations properly incurred by SYRCL up to the effective date of the termination. Excess funds must be refunded within 60 days after the effective date of termination.



- V. ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION – PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT. In the event of any issue of controversy under this agreement, the parties may pursue Alternate Dispute Resolution procedures to voluntarily resolve those issues. These procedures may include, but are not limited to conciliation, facilitation, mediation, and fact finding.
- W. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION. SYRCL shall immediately inform the U.S. Forest Service if they or any of their principals are presently excluded, debarred, or suspended from entering into covered transactions with the Federal Government according to the terms of 2 CFR Part 180. Additionally, should SYRCL or any of their principals receive a transmittal letter or other official Federal notice of debarment or suspension, then they shall notify the U.S. Forest Service without undue delay. This applies whether the exclusion, debarment, or suspension is voluntary or involuntary.
- X. MODIFICATIONS. Modifications within the scope of this agreement must be made by mutual consent of the parties, by the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all properly authorized, signatory officials, prior to any changes being performed. Requests for modification should be made, in writing, at least 30 days prior to implementation of the requested change. The U.S. Forest Service is not obligated to fund any changes not properly approved in advance.
- Y. COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION DATE. This agreement is executed as of the date of the last signature and is effective through **September 30, 2013** at which time it will expire, unless extended by an executed modification, signed and dated by all properly authorized, signatory officials.
- Z. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES. By signature below, each party certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual parties are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement. In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date written below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JASON RAINEY, Executive Director  
South Yuba River Citizens League

6/1/11  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TOM QUINN, Forest Supervisor  
U.S. Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest

6/2/11  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





The authority and format of this agreement has been reviewed and approved for signature.

  
LYNNE SHOLTY

U.S. Forest Service Grants & Agreements Specialist

5/25/11  
Date

Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0217. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## FY 2012 Loney Meadow Restoration Yuba River Ranger District

**Project Title:** Loney Meadow Restoration (aspen, trails, erosion)

**Date Submitted:** 11/17/11

**Project Proponent/Coordinator:** Kathy Van Zuuk for a SYRCL NFWF grant proposal that is due 12/1/11

**Job Code:** N/A

**Project Location and Description:** Refer to the attached maps and photo. Loney Meadow is located in section 17, T.18N, R12E, on the English Mountain quadrangle. This work involves four different but connected actions.

1. Small conifers would be removed from aspen stands. Hand cut/saw small conifers <sup>less than 10" dbh</sup> ~~(10 inches dbh or less)~~ and pile (for burning/wildlife cover/barriers to livestock/browsing wildlife) using supervised volunteers. Any weeds discovered would also be pulled and disposed of properly. No piles would be placed within 100 feet of meadows or riparian veg. The location of the piles would be GPSed and reported to a fuels specialist so they could be added to the pile burning plan.
2. About 1/100<sup>th</sup> of an acre would have erosion control work using by turnpike trail construction or waterbars on about 10 feet of existing trail and adjacent areas. If fill is needed from off site, it will be certified weed free. In addition, the eroded area would be seeded with weed free native plant seed. After seeding the area would be temporarily fenced to exclude cattle for about 2 years. The native seed would be collected on site, grown at a nursery to increase it, planted at the site, and covered with weed-free mulch.
3. The existing interpretive signs would be removed. New signs would be developed and installed along the trail (10-15). In addition, a new trailhead sign would be installed. Two other signs would also be installed that direct trail users when the interpretive trail intersects with those trails.
4. The existing trail would have general trail tread repair. This is considered trail maintenance and includes removal of trees that have fallen across the trail.

**CE Category:** The NEPA analysis is expected to fall into a category of exclusion [category 31.2 (6)] that would not require documentation in an EA and EIS.

**Decision Memo Needed?**

No

**Ranger Concurrence:**



**Date:** November 17, 2011

**Additional Comments:**



Y908 3117

Loney Interpretive Trail  
 TWFO1179/R 1995051700080  
 (Station 1994)

See attached e-mail 11/29/11

Resource Area	Comment/Concurrence	Name and Date	Cost to Gov't (if needed)	Estimated Hours
Archaeology	need report - the previous coverage KVE - 11/29/11	11/17/11		
Botany	No concerns. The project areas have been surveyed for rare plants and weeds. None were found.	Kathy Van Zuuk 11/17/11	N/A	Hours to supervise volunteers
Wildlife/Fish	No concerns	WU 11/17/11		
Soil/Water	No piling w/in riparian buffers.	TB 11/17/11		
Minerals				
Recreation	FS needs to approve signs. Good project	JC 11/17/11		
Silviculture/Veg.	change 10" dbh or less to less than 10" dbh	TW 11/17	Ø	Ø
Fire/Fuels				
Special Uses	No concerns	HN 11/17	Ø	Ø
Engineering				
Range	Fence maintenance - who will be responsible?	JS 11/30/2011	-	-

Response - SPAC if they get the grant - KVE  
 11/30/11

This signed letter serves as a "Letter to the File" for NEPA compliance.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Yuba River  
Ranger  
District

15924 Highway 49  
Camptonville, CA  
95922-9707  
530-288-3231  
530-288-3656 TDD  
530-288-0727 FAX

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File Code: 1580

Date: January 18, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr, Ste. 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support of the project titled: Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project: Phase 2. This category 1 project would improve about 4 acres of aspen in the Loney Meadow area and supports cooperative efforts within the community. The project would be implemented entirely on National Forest System lands. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

GENICE FROEHLICH  
District Ranger

cc: Kathy VanZuuk





January 13, 2012

Jim Branham  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Team:

American Rivers is writing to express support of the project entitled: **Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project: Phase 2**. This effort will restore and protect a critical Sierra forest ecosystem while maintaining recreational and grazing opportunities. This project will also build capacity for volunteer stewardship and increase the public's knowledge about meadow ecosystems and how they contribute to healthy watersheds and forests.

This project is critical for many reasons. First, we have found Loney Meadow to be a high priority restoration site in our *2010 Yuba Meadows Assessment*. Second, this is a meadow where restoration work can be successful without huge expenditures. Third, it is an ideal place to educate the public about wet meadow systems of the Sierra. Further, this project will build the capacity of volunteer stewards to learn about meadows and to champion meadow restoration work.

We have direct experience working with this project team and are confident that the work will be completed successfully. We urge the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Soderstrom", is shown within a rectangular box.

Elizabeth Soderstrom, PhD  
Senior Director of Conservation

## **Supplemental and Supporting Documents**

### **Checklist Number 6 d**

#### **Long Term Management and Sustainability**

See attached extract from the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision, Section 14 Riparian Conservation Area. This document is the USFS long-term management plan for the Tahoe National Forest and will be followed in the long-term management for Loney Meadow.

## 14. Riparian Conservation Areas

Riparian conservation areas overlap all land allocations. The standards and guidelines for riparian conservation areas apply in these areas except in cases where the standards and guidelines of the overlapping land allocation place greater restrictions on management activities. For example, riparian conservation area standards and guidelines allow mechanical treatments (based on consistency with riparian conservation objectives). However, where a riparian conservation area overlaps with a California spotted owl PAC (outside the defense zone of the urban wildland intermix zone), treatments are limited to prescribed burning only, consistent with the more restrictive standards and guidelines for fuel treatments in PACs.

### Designating Riparian Conservation Areas

Designate riparian conservation area (RCA) widths as listed in Table II.C.1 below. RCA widths shown in Table II.C.1 may be adjusted at the project level if a landscape analysis has been completed and a site-specific RCO analysis demonstrates a need for different widths.

Use a peer review process for vegetation treatments or other activities proposed within CARs and RCAs that are likely to significantly affect aquatic resources. (The peer review process is described in detail in Part I of this Appendix.) Conduct peer reviews for projects that propose ground-disturbing activities in more than 25 percent of the RCA or more than 15 percent of a CAR.

**Table II.C.1.** Riparian conservation area widths by stream type.

STREAM TYPE	WIDTH OF THE RIPARIAN CONSERVATION AREA
Perennial Streams	300 feet on each side of the stream, measured from the bank full edge of the stream
Seasonally Flowing Streams (includes ephemerals with defined stream channel or evidence of scour)	150 feet on each side of the stream, measured from the bank full edge of the stream
Streams In Inner Gorge <sup>1</sup>	Top of inner gorge
Special Aquatic Features <sup>2</sup> or Perennial Streams with Riparian Conditions extending more than 150 feet from edge of streambank or Seasonally Flowing streams with riparian conditions extending more than 50 feet from edge of streambank	300 feet from edge of feature or riparian vegetation, whichever width is greater
Other hydrological or topographic depressions without a defined channel.	RCA width and protection measures determined through project level analysis

1. Inner gorge is defined by stream adjacent slopes greater than 70 percent gradient

2. Special Aquatic Features include: lakes, meadows, bogs, fens, wetlands, vernal pools, and springs

## **Riparian Conservation Areas: Activity-Related Standards and Guidelines**

By their nature, the Aquatic Management Strategy (AMS) goals (detailed in Part I of this Appendix) do not provide the necessary detail for prescribing management practices at a site-specific scale. Where a proposed project encompasses a riparian conservation area (or critical aquatic refuge), conduct a site-specific project area analysis to determine the appropriate level of management within the riparian conservation area (RCA) (or critical aquatic refuge, CAR). Determine the type and level of allowable management activities by assessing how proposed activities measure against the riparian conservation objectives (RCOs) and their associated standards and guidelines. Implement other related standards and guidelines appropriate to the project and include them in documentation of meeting RCOs. These may include standards and guidelines for road management, grazing management, mining, or vegetation management presented in other parts of this Appendix or existing forest plans. Consider the protection of human life and property in implementing the AMS.

The RCOs serve as a checklist for evaluating management prescriptions to determine if a proposed activity will move an area toward the desired conditions described by the AMS goals. Analyze all RCOs and their associated standards and guidelines for projects in RCAs or CARs. As part of the analysis, consider physical factors, such as soil characteristics, geology, slope, stream characteristics, and biological factors, such as aquatic- and riparian-dependent species present, their habitat needs, and the ability of the existing environment to provide needed habitat.

**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #1:** Ensure that identified beneficial uses for the water body are adequately protected. Identify the specific beneficial uses for the project area, water quality goals from the Regional Basin Plan, and the manner in which the standards and guidelines will protect the beneficial uses.

*(RCO #1 is linked to the following AMS goals: #1: Water Quality; #2: Species Viability; #7: Watershed Condition)*

### **Standards and Guidelines Associated with RCO #1:**

Implement project appropriate Best Management Practices and monitor their effectiveness following protocols outlined in "Investigating Water Quality in the Pacific Southwest Region: Best Management Practices Evaluation Program" (USDA-FS, PSW Region 1992).

For waters designated as "Water Quality Limited" (Clean Water Act Section 303(d)), implement appropriate State mandates for the water body, such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) protocols.

Conduct project-specific cumulative watershed effects analysis following Regional procedures or other appropriate scientific methodology to meet NEPA requirements.

Implement soil quality standards for soil loss, detrimental soil compaction, and organic matter retention to minimize the risk of sediment delivery to aquatic systems from management activities. Ensure that management-related activities, including roads, skid trails, landings, trails, or other activities, do not result in detrimental soil compaction on more than 5 percent of the RCA or 10 percent of the area in CARs. Measure compaction using the procedures outlined in Appendix F of the FEIS.

Identify existing and potential sources of sediment delivery to aquatic systems. Implement preventive and restoration measures, such as modifying management activities, increasing ground cover, reducing

the extent of compacted surfaces, or revegetating disturbed sites to reduce or eliminate sediment delivery from these sources to aquatic systems.

Evaluate new proposed management activities within CARs and RCAs during environmental analysis to determine consistency with the riparian conservation objectives at the project level and the AMS goals for the landscape. Ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented to (1) minimize the risk of activity-related sediment entering aquatic systems, and (2) minimize impacts to habitat for aquatic- or riparian-dependent plant and animal species.

Identify existing uses and activities in CARs and RCAs during landscape analysis. Evaluate existing management activities to determine consistency with RCOs during project-level analysis. Develop and implement actions needed for consistency with RCOs.

Ensure that management activities do not adversely affect water temperatures necessary for local aquatic- and riparian-dependent species assemblages.

Limit pesticide applications to cases where project level analysis indicates that pesticide applications are consistent with riparian conservation objectives. Prohibit application of pesticides to livestock in RCAs and CARs.

Avoid pesticide applications within 500 feet of known occupied sites for the California red-legged frog, Cascade frog, Yosemite toad, foothill yellow-legged frog, mountain yellow-legged frog, and northern leopard frog unless environmental analysis documents that pesticides are needed to restore or enhance habitat for these amphibian species.

Prohibit storage of fuels and other toxic materials within RCAs and CARs except at designated administrative sites. Prohibit refueling within RCAs and CARs unless there are no other alternatives. Ensure that spill plans are reviewed and up-to-date.

**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #2:** Maintain or restore: (1) the geomorphic and biological characteristics of special aquatic features, including lakes, meadows, bogs, fens, wetlands, vernal pools, springs; (2) streams, including in stream flows; and (3) hydrologic connectivity both within and between watersheds to provide for the habitat needs of aquatic-dependent species.

*(RCO #2 is linked to the following AMS Goals: #2: Species Viability; #3: Plant and Animal Community Diversity; #4: Special Habitats; #5: Watershed Connectivity; #6: Floodplains and Water Tables; #8: Streamflow Patterns and Sediment Regimes; #9: Streambanks and Shorelines)*

**Standards and Guidelines Associated with RCO #2:**

Maintain and restore the hydrologic connectivity of streams, meadows, wetlands, and other special aquatic features by identifying roads and trails that intercept, divert, or disrupt natural surface and subsurface water flow paths. Implement corrective actions where necessary to restore connectivity.

Ensure that culverts or other stream crossings do not create barriers to upstream or downstream passage for aquatic-dependent species. Locate water drafting sites to avoid adverse effects to in stream flows and depletion of pool habitat. Where possible, maintain and restore the timing, variability, and duration of floodplain inundation and water table elevation in meadows, wetlands, and other special aquatic features.

Prior to activities that could affect streams, determine if relevant geomorphic characteristics, including bank angle, channel bank stability, bank full width-to-depth ratio, embeddedness, channel-floodplain connectivity, residual pool depth, or channel substrate, are within the range of natural variability for the reference stream type as described in the Pacific Southwest Region Stream Condition Inventory protocol. If properties are outside the range of natural variability, implement restoration actions that will result in an upward trend.

Prevent disturbance to meadow-associated streambanks and natural lake and pond shorelines caused by resource activities (for example, livestock, off-highway vehicles, and dispersed recreation) from exceeding 20 percent of stream reach or 20 percent of natural lake and pond shorelines. Disturbance includes bank sloughing, chiseling, trampling, and other means of exposing bare soil or cutting plant roots. This standard does not apply to developed recreation sites and designated off-highway vehicle routes.

In stream reaches occupied by, or identified as “essential habitat” in the conservation assessment for, the Lahonton and Paiute cutthroat trout and the Little Kern golden trout, limit streambank disturbance from livestock to 10 percent of the occupied or “essential habitat” stream reach. (Conservation assessments are described in the record of decision.) Cooperate with State and Federal agencies to develop streambank disturbance standards for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Use the regional streambank assessment protocol. Implement corrective action where disturbance limits have been exceeded.

Determine if the age class, structural diversity, composition, and cover of riparian vegetation are within the range of natural variability for the vegetative community. If outside the range of natural variability, implement restoration actions that will result in an upward trend. Actions could include restoration of aspen or other riparian vegetation where conifer encroachment is identified as a problem.

Cooperate with Federal, Tribal, State and local governments to secure in stream flows needed to maintain, recover, and restore riparian resources, channel conditions, and aquatic habitat. Maintain in stream flows to protect aquatic systems to which species are uniquely adapted. Minimize the effects of stream diversions or other flow modifications from hydroelectric projects on threatened, endangered, and sensitive species and essential habitat as identified in conservation assessments. (Conservation assessments are described in the record of decision.)

During relicensing of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hydroelectric projects, evaluate modifications by the project to the natural hydrograph. Determine and recommend in stream flow requirements and habitat conditions that maintain, enhance, or restore all life stages of native aquatic species, and that maintain or restore riparian resources, channel integrity, and fish passage. Provide written and timely license conditions to FERC. Coordinate relicensing projects with the appropriate State and Federal agencies.

For exempt hydroelectric facilities on national forest lands, ensure that special use permit language provides adequate in stream flow requirements to maintain, restore, or recover favorable ecological conditions for local riparian- and aquatic-dependent species.



**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #3:** Ensure a renewable supply of large down logs that: (1) can reach the stream channel and (2) provide suitable habitat within and adjacent to the RCA.

*(RCO #3 is linked to the following AMS goals: #2: Species Viability; #3: Plant and Animal Community Diversity)*

**Standards and Guidelines Associated with RCO #3:**

Determine if the level of coarse large woody debris (CWD) is within the range of natural conditions in terms of frequency and distribution and is sufficient to sustain stream channel physical complexity and stability. If CWD levels are deficient, ensure proposed management activities, when appropriate, contribute to the recruitment of CWD. Burning prescriptions should be designed to retain CWD; however short-term reductions below either the soil quality standards or standards in species management plans may result from prescribed burning within strategically placed treatment areas or the urban wildland intermix zone.

In plantations within RCAs or CARs, determine if the plantation will be able to provide a sufficient supply of standing trees suitable for large wood recruitment. If there is not sufficient wood for recruitment, develop a restoration program that will provide standing trees of the appropriate size in the RCA or CAR. In developing the restoration program, ensure that proposed activities are consistent with the riparian conservation objectives.

**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #4:** Ensure that management activities, including fuels reduction actions, within RCAs and CARs enhance or maintain physical and biological characteristics associated with aquatic- and riparian-dependent species.

*(RCO #4 is linked to the following AMS Goals: #2: Species Viability, #7: Watershed Condition)*

**Standards and Guidelines Associated with RCO #4:**

Within CARs, in occupied habitat or “essential habitat” as identified in conservation assessments for threatened, endangered, or sensitive species, evaluate the appropriate role, timing, and extent of prescribed fire. Avoid direct lighting within riparian vegetation; prescribed fires may back into riparian vegetation areas. Develop mitigation measures to avoid impacts to these species whenever ground-disturbing equipment is used.

Use screening devices for water drafting pumps. (Fire suppression activities are exempt). Use pumps with low entry velocity to minimize removal of aquatic species, including juvenile fish, amphibian egg masses and tadpoles, from aquatic habitats.

Design prescribed fire treatments to minimize disturbance of ground cover and riparian vegetation in RCAs. In burn plans for project areas that include, or are adjacent to RCAs, identify mitigation measures to minimize the spread of fire into riparian vegetation. In determining which mitigation measures to adopt, weigh the potential harm of mitigation measures, for example fire lines, against the risks and benefits of prescribed fire entering riparian vegetation. Strategies should recognize the role of fire in ecosystem function and identify those instances where fire suppression or fuel management actions could be damaging to habitat or long-term function of the riparian community.

Where catastrophic events, such as drought, fire, flooding, wind, or insect damage, result in degraded stand conditions, allow salvage harvesting and fuelwood cutting in RCAs and CARs consistent with the assessment of the RCOs for the area. Ensure that present and future woody debris needs are met.

Post-wildfire management activities in RCAs and CARs should emphasize enhancing native vegetation cover, stabilizing channels by non-structural means, minimizing adverse effects from the existing road network, and carrying out activities identified in landscape analyses. Post-wildfire operations shall minimize the exposure of bare soil.

Allow mechanical ground disturbing fuels treatments, hazard tree removal, salvage harvest, or commercial fuelwood cutting within RCAs or CARs when the activity is consistent with RCOs. Projects providing for public health and safety, such as the felling of hazard trees or fuel reduction activities within the defense zone of the urban wildland intermix zones, are permitted. Utilize low ground pressure equipment, helicopters, over the snow logging, or other non-ground disturbing actions to operate off of existing roads when needed to achieve RCOs. Prior to removing trees within RCAs or CARs, determine if existing down wood is sufficient to sustain the stream channel physical complexity and stability required to maintain or enhance the aquatic- and riparian-dependent community. Ensure that existing roads, landings, and skid trails meet Best Management Practices. Minimize the construction of new skid trails or roads for access into RCAs for fuel treatments, salvage harvest, commercial fuelwood cutting, or hazard tree removal.

Prior to implementing ground disturbing activities within suitable habitat for the California red-legged frog, Cascade frog, Yosemite toad, foothill yellow-legged frog, mountain yellow-legged frog, and northern leopard frog:

- assess and document aquatic conditions using the Pacific Southwest Region Stream Condition Inventory protocol, and
- develop mitigation measures (such as timing of activities, limited operating seasons, avoidance) to avoid impacting these species.

During fire suppression activities, consider impacts to aquatic- and riparian-dependent resources. Where possible, locate incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots, and other centers for incident activities outside of RCAs or CARs. During presuppression planning, determine guidelines for suppression activities, including avoidance of potential adverse effects to aquatic- and riparian-dependent species as a goal.

Assess roads, trails, OHV trails and staging areas, developed recreation sites, dispersed campgrounds, special use permits, grazing permits, and day use sites during landscape analysis. Identify conditions that degrade water quality or habitat for aquatic- and riparian-dependent species. At the project level, determine if use is consistent with other standards and guidelines or desired conditions. If inconsistent, modify the use through redesign, rehabilitation, relocation, closure, or re-directing the use to a more suitable location.

Require solid waste facilities (such as waste rock and tailings dumps) to be located outside riparian conservation areas. Where no reasonable alternative to locating these mine waste facilities in riparian conservation areas exists, locate and design them with the goal of ensuring mine waste facility stability and preventing potentially toxic releases. Ensure the following measures are applied: (1) analyze mine waste material using the best conventional sampling methods and analytical techniques to determine its chemical and physical stability characteristics; (2) locate and design mine waste facilities using best conventional techniques to ensure mass stability and prevent acid or toxic material releases; (3) ensure

that reclamation and reclamation bonds are sufficient to ensure long-term chemical and physical stability of mine waste facilities; and (4) monitor mine waste facilities after operations have ceased to ensure that chemical and physical conditions are consistent with aquatic management strategy goals.

Allow saleable mineral activities, such as sand and gravel mining and extraction, in riparian conservation areas only if measures that protect the integrity of aquatic, riparian meadow ecosystems are implemented.

**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #5:** Preserve, restore, or enhance special aquatic features, such as meadows, lakes, ponds, bogs, fens, and wetlands, to provide the ecological conditions and processes needed to recover or enhance the viability of species that rely on these areas.

*(RCO #5 is linked to the following AMS goals: #1: Water Quality, #2 Species Viability, #3 Plant and Animal Community Diversity, #4 Special Habitats; #7: Watershed Condition; #9: Stream Banks and Shorelines)*

#### **Standards and Guidelines Associated with RCO #5:**

Assess the hydrologic function of meadow habitats and other special aquatic features during range management analysis. Ensure that characteristics of special features are, at a minimum, at Proper Functioning Condition, as defined in the appropriate Technical Reports: (1) "Process for Assessing PFC" TR 1737-9 (1993), "PFC for Lotic Areas" USDI TR 1737-15 (1998) or (2) "PFC for Lentic Riparian-Wetland Areas" USDI TR 1737-11 (1994).

Prohibit or mitigate ground-disturbing activities that adversely affect hydrologic processes that maintain water flow, water quality, or water temperature critical to sustaining bog and fen ecosystems and plant species that depend on these ecosystems. During project analysis, survey, map, and develop measures to protect bogs and fens from such activities as trampling by livestock, pack stock, humans, and wheeled vehicles. Criteria for defining bogs and fens include, but are not limited to, presence of: (1) sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum spp.*), (2) mosses belonging to the genus *Meesia*, and (3) sundew (*Drosera spp.*) Complete initial plant inventories of bogs and fens within active grazing allotments prior to re-issuing permits.

Locate new facilities for gathering livestock and pack stock outside of meadows and riparian conservation areas. During landscape analysis, evaluate and consider relocating existing livestock facilities outside of meadows and riparian areas (RCA42). Prior to re-issuing grazing permits, assess the compatibility of livestock management facilities located in riparian conservation areas with riparian conservation objectives.

Under season-long grazing:

- For meadows in early seral status: limit livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants to 30 percent (or minimum 6-inch stubble height).
- For meadows in late seral status: limit livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants to a maximum of 40 percent (or minimum 4-inch stubble height).

Determine ecological status on all key areas monitored for grazing utilization prior to establishing utilization levels. Use Regional ecological scorecards and range plant list in regional range handbooks to determine ecological status. Analyze meadow ecological status every 3 to 5 years. If meadow ecological

status is determined to be moving in a downward trend, modify or suspend grazing. Include ecological status data in a spatially explicit Geographical Information System database.

Under intensive grazing systems (such as rest-rotation and deferred rotation) where meadows are receiving a period of rest, utilization levels can be higher than the levels described above if the meadow is maintained in late seral status and meadow-associated species are not being impacted. Degraded meadows (such as those in early seral status with greater than 10 percent of the meadow area in bare soil and active erosion) require total rest from grazing until they have recovered and have moved to mid- or late seral status.

The grazing standards specified in standard and guideline FW-G04B (above) may be modified to assess the effects of grazing intensity and frequency on willow flycatcher site occupancy or demography. Such modifications must be part of a formal management study developed in cooperation with the Pacific Southwest Research Station.

Limit browsing to no more than 20 percent of the annual leader growth of mature riparian shrubs (including willow and aspen) and no more than 20 percent of individual seedlings. Remove livestock from any area of an allotment when browsing indicates a change in livestock preference from grazing herbaceous vegetation to browsing woody riparian vegetation. Herd sheep away from woody riparian vegetation at all times.

**RIPARIAN CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE #6:** Identify and implement restoration actions to maintain, restore or enhance water quality and maintain, restore, or enhance habitat for riparian and aquatic species.

*(RCO # 6 is linked to all AMS goals.)*

Recommend and establish priorities for restoration practices in: (1) areas with compaction in excess of soil quality standards, (2) areas with lowered water tables, or (3) areas that are either actively down cutting or that have historic gullies. Identify other management practices, for example, road building, recreational use, grazing, and timber harvests, that may be contributing to the observed degradation.

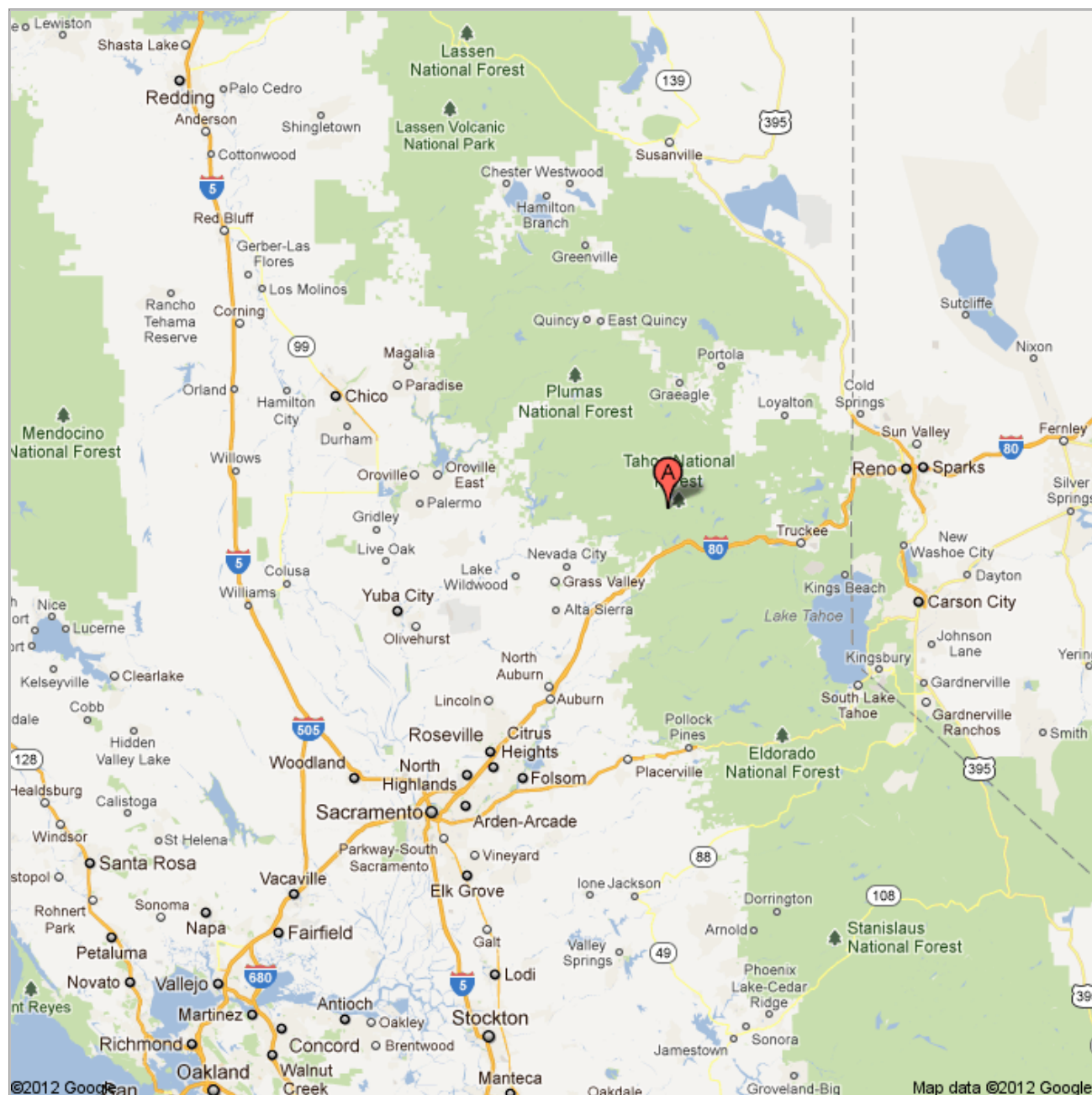
Reclaim abandoned mine sites that are degrading aquatic riparian and meadow ecosystems. First priority is to reclaim sites with hazardous or toxic substances located within CARs and RCAs.



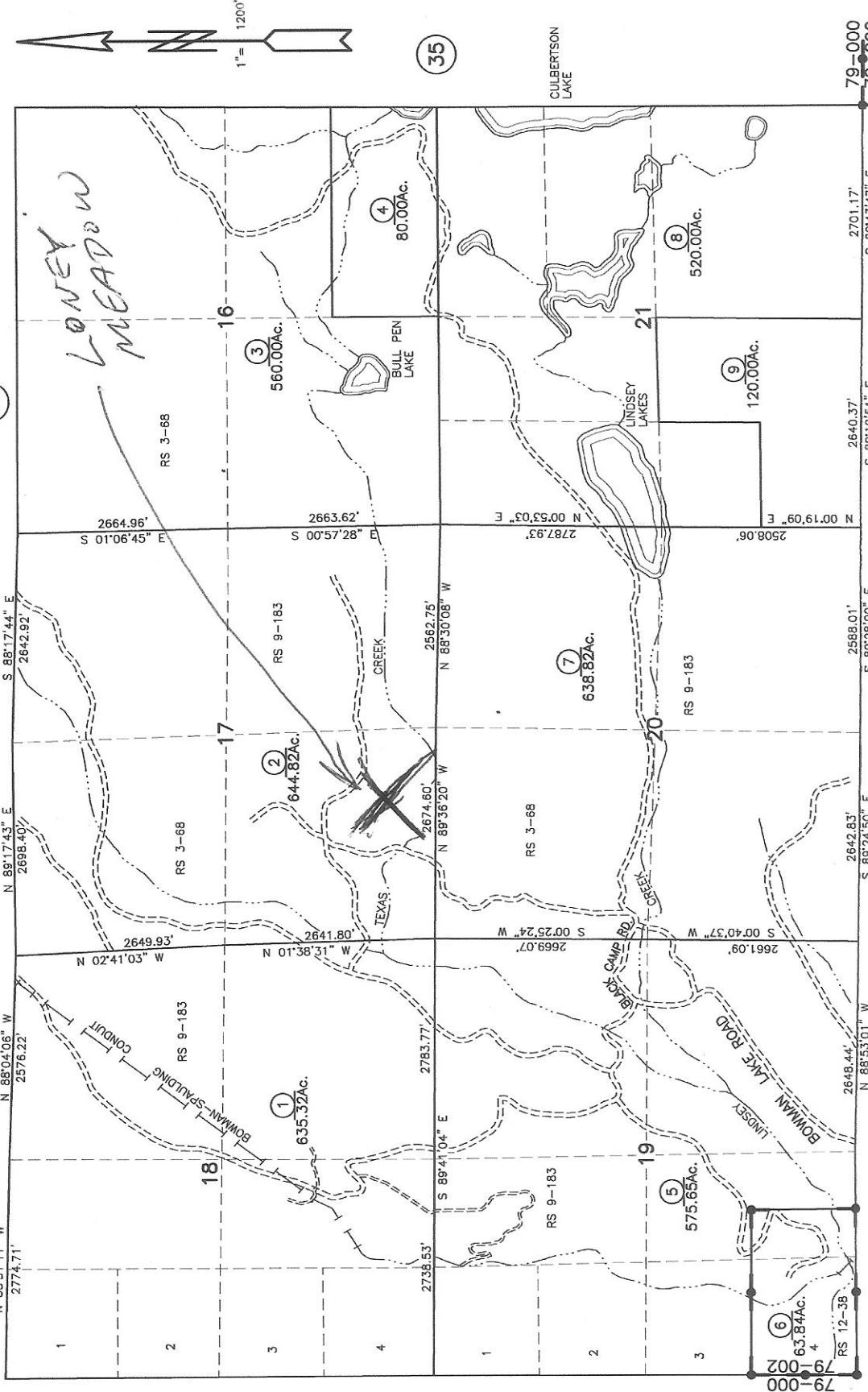
Address **Loney Meadow**  
**Tahoe National Forest, CA**

Get Google Maps on your phone

Text the word "GMAPS" to 466453



(32)



(23)

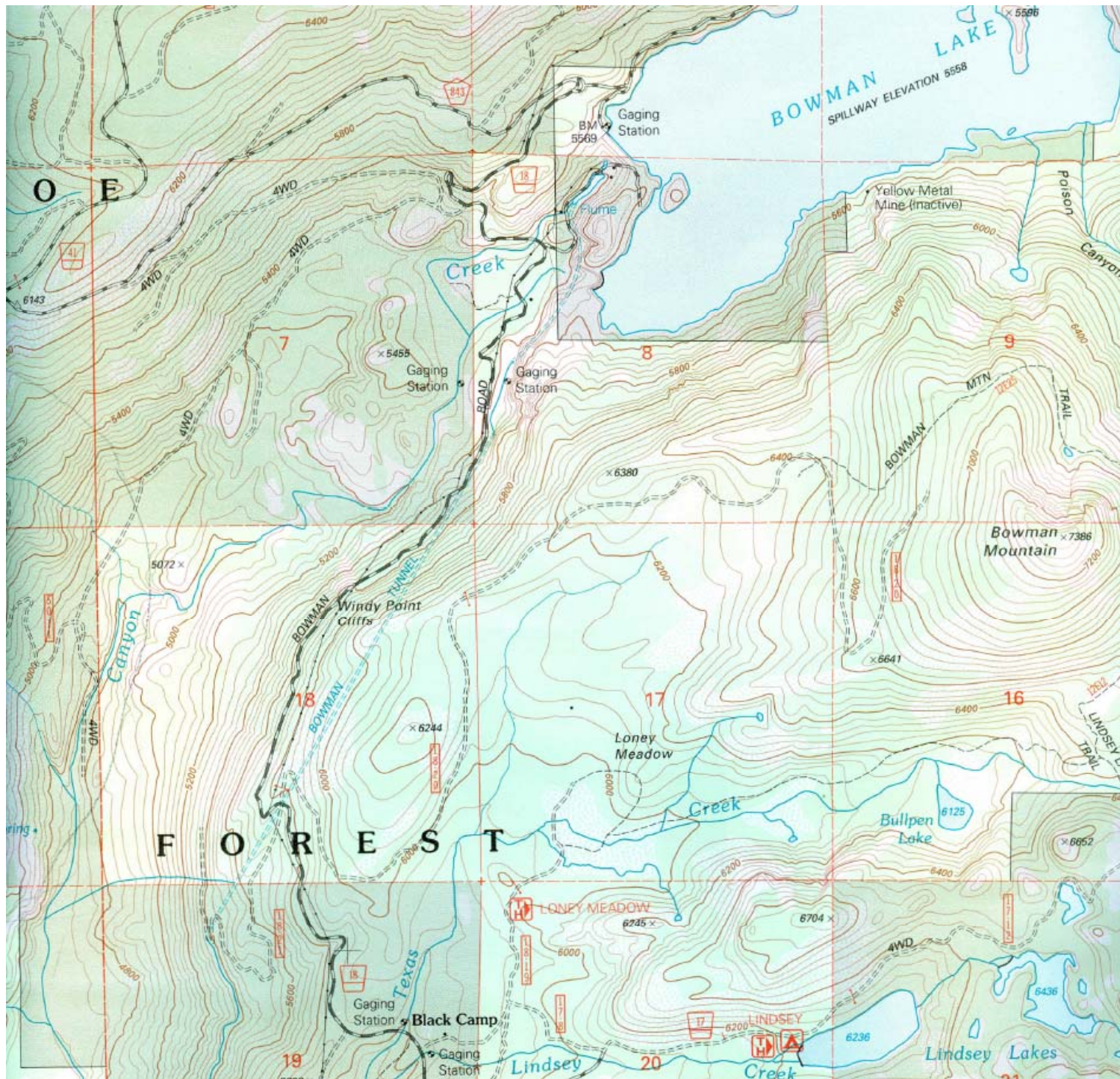
(35)

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
This map was prepared for assessment purposes only. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of data shown. Assessor's responsibility is limited to the accuracy of lot-split or building site ordinances.

3-1-89	3-1-76
3-1-94	3-1-77
3-1-97	3-1-82
3-1-98	3-1-85
3-1-99	3-1-86

(36)









**A relatively functional portion of Loney Meadow with Texas Creek in foreground and grazing horses in background.**





**Luke Hunt, of American Rivers, standing in front of eroded bank and dry channel of Texas Creek in the lower portion of Loney Meadow.**



**Project partners walking Loney Meadow interpretive trail, adjacent to an erosion site to be treated.  
An area of encroaching conifers in the background.**





**Portion of Loney Meadow illustrating lowered water table, mesic vegetation and encroaching conifers.**



**Kathy VanZuuk, of Tahoe National Forest, inspecting browse on young aspens, in the upper portion of Loney Meadow.**

## **Supplemental and Supporting Documents**

### **Checklist Number 6 g**

#### **Land Tenure Documents**

Attached please find a letter from the United States Forest Service which states that the project will be entirely implemented on National Forest Systems land. We understand that this letter will suffice as a land tenure document for the project.

See attached





United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Yuba River  
Ranger  
District

15924 Highway 49  
Camptonville, CA  
95922-9707  
530-288-3231  
530-288-3656 TDD  
530-288-0727 FAX

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File Code: 1580

Date: January 18, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr, Ste. 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support of the project titled: Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project: Phase 2. This category 1 project would improve about 4 acres of aspen in the Loney Meadow area and supports cooperative efforts within the community. The project would be implemented entirely on National Forest System lands. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

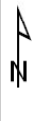
GENICE FROEHLICH  
District Ranger

cc: Kathy VanZuuk





## Loney Meadows Restoration Project



Scale: 1:6,000

1" = 500'

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

40' Contour Interval

Note: GIS data and product accuracy may vary. The lines and areas represented on this map are only approximate and their actual location on the ground may vary.

### Proposals

- Erosion Control
- Meadow/Aspen Maintenance:  
Small Conifer Removal
- Trail Maintenance +  
Interpretive Signing

### Legend

#### Streams

- Intermittent
- Perennial

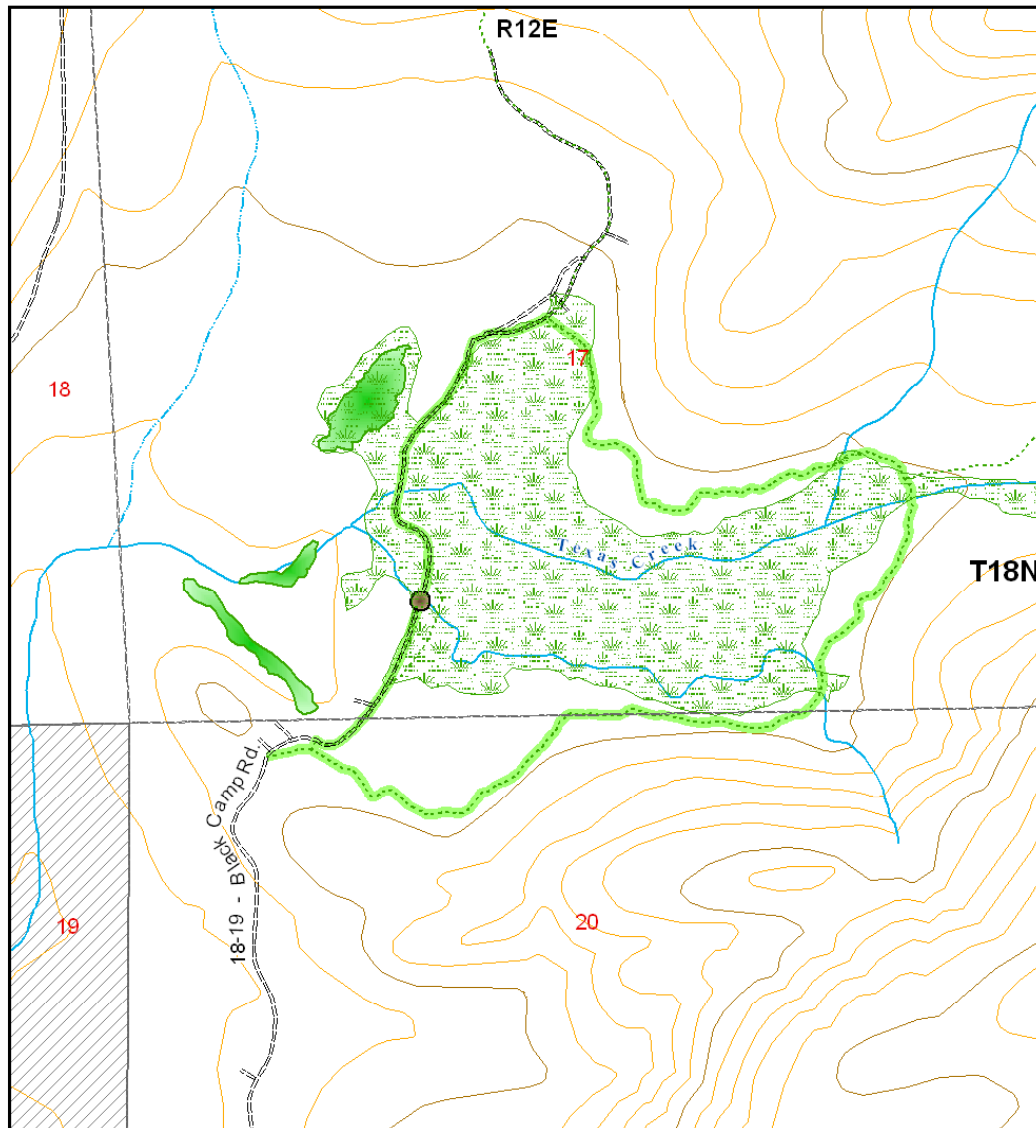
#### Transportation

- Non-Motorized Trail
- Dirt Road

#### Surface Ownership

- Tahoe N.F.
- Private

TNF GIS - ad - 11/16/2011



## Loney Meadows Restoration Project



Scale: 1:6,000

1" = 500'

0 250 500 1,000 feet

40' Contour Interval

Note: GIS data and product accuracy may vary. The lines and areas represented on this map are only approximate and their actual location on the ground may vary.

### Proposals

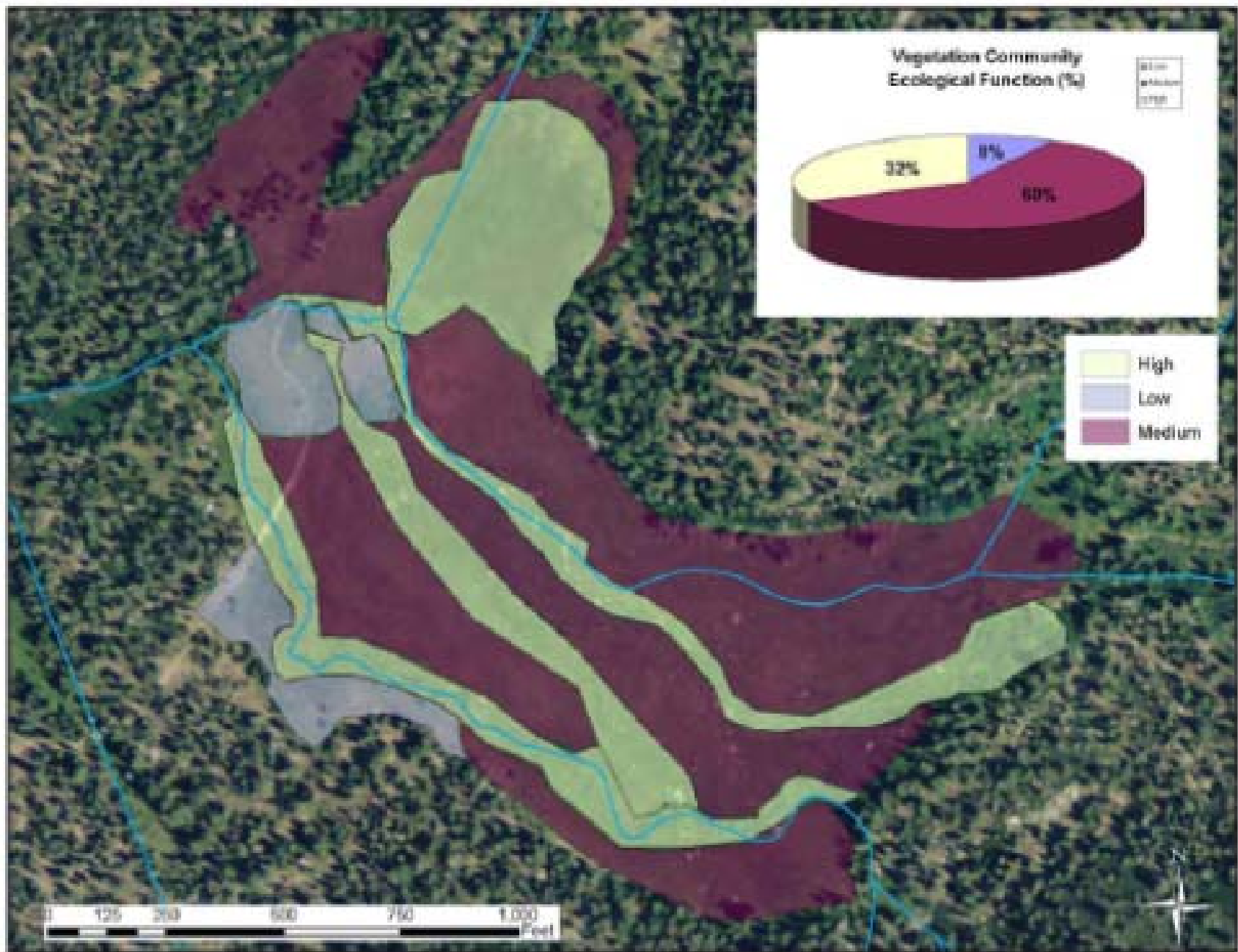
- Erosion Control
- Meadow/Aspen Maintenance:  
Small Conifer Removal
- Trail Maintenance +  
Interpretive Signing

### Legend

- Meadow
- Streams**
  - Intermittent
  - Perennial
- Transportation**
  - Dirt Road
  - Non-Motorized Trail
- Surface Ownership**
  - Tahoe N.F.
  - Private

TNF GIS - ad - 11/16/2011





### Loney Meadow - Vegetation Mapping

Map of ecological function within Loney Meadow from American Rivers (2010).



### Loney Meadow - Aerial Data Composition

Map of cross-sections in Loney Meadow surveyed in completed assessment (American River 2010).

## **Supplemental and Supporting Documents**

### **Checklist Number 6 g**

#### **Leases or Agreements**

A current agreement between the USFS and SYRCL to improve aspen stands is attached at the earlier section 6 b Regulatory Requirements/Permits